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OXFORD DEMOCRAT,

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G. W. KILPATRICK,

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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Book and Job Printing EXECUTED WITH NEATNESS AND DESPATCH.

THE STORY TELLER.

From the Dollar Newspaper.

PLOT WITHIN A PLOT;
OR, "FIDE, SED CUI, VIDE."

BY J. N. HOFFMAN.

Theophilus, a young candidate for the Gospel ministry, had just completed his course of theological studies, and was on the eve of leaving a place, where, in the pursuit of knowledge he had enjoyed so many pleasant hours during the last three years, but which he now regretted to leave, on account of certain tender associations, upon which his memory dwelt with all-absorbing fondness. He had obtained the highest honors at College, and in his subsequent theological course he had been equally successful. His limited pecuniary means, together with an intense desire to attain distinction, operated as powerful motives to prompt him to diligence and perseverance in his literary pursuits. He soon became conspicuous, on account of his superior talents and extraordinary attainments. Naturally fond of poetry, he cultivated this taste with ardor and success, and soon became extensively known through his poetical effusions. He was now about to depart from the scene of so many interesting recollections, in order to enter upon the active duties of his profession, recommended by an unblemished character, a refined education, elevated sentiments, and, in general, highly qualified for his intended calling.

During the last year, he had become acquainted with and won the affections of a young lady of superior personal and mental attractions. Estelle had also just completed her education at a celebrated boarding school in the same place, and daily expected the arrival of her father to convey her to her home. Notwithstanding the strict supervision exercised over her by her tutors, the lovers found means to concert a private interview on the evening which preceded their mutual departure. In the mean time, a young man, a near relative of Estelle, arrived, in order to take her home, as her father was prevented from coming himself, in consequence of his numerous official engagements. On the appointed evening, Theophilus and Estelle met according to agreement. As they walked along the bank of a small stream, to a well known sylvan retreat, not a word was uttered—mutually occupied with the sad idea of their anticipated separation, and both unwilling to increase each other's sadness by an allusion to the subject. Having at length taken a seat in a place where they had frequently met before, they renewed their engagement and vowed eternal fidelity to each other. They spoke with candor of the almost insuperable difficulties which rendered the future so gloomy. Whilst, however, Estelle conversed about these anticipated difficulties with buoyant hopes, Theophilus was inclined to yield to a gloomy foreboding that their ardent wishes would never be realized.

"What hope can I have," said he, "especially when I contrast my situation with that of your father? He sustains a highly conspicuous position in society, is honored and respected, and never will consent to a union of his daughter with a poor, penniless young man, without rank or station in society."

"Oh! learn to think more nobly of my father! replied Estelle—"the happiness of his daughter will outweigh all the selfish considerations of wealth and distinction."

"You are truly a comforter, and for your sake I will hope; one thing cheers me, and that is the conviction of your fidelity. And, oh! the idea that you, who are worthy to move in the highest circles of the great and fashionable, have consented to cast your lot with a humble student, without any pretensions, and who has nothing to offer but his love, fills me with rapture!"

"And is not that love worth every thing else?" said Estelle. "Rest assured that those selfish considerations which are so ardently sought after by the world never were designed to render man happy!"

"But," said Theophilus, his thoughts again taking a gloomy turn, "when shall we meet again?"

"That must be left to Providence. In the mean time, let us pursue our destined course, and all will be right in the end."

As their engagement was known only to themselves, they agreed to keep it a secret until a proper season should arrive to make it known. Having settled their affairs as well as they could, and agreed upon a secret mode of correspondence, Theophilus placing a ring upon her finger, and they both rose to return, when an unexpected incident terminated their interview. The young relative, who had been sent for Estelle, surprised at her long and unusual absence, resolved to go in quest of the fugitive, not without suspicion as to the cause of her absence. Just as they were about to separate, and whilst he imparted a farewell kiss upon her ruby lips, the young relative burst upon them. This sudden surprise, the idea that their dear secret was dis-

covered, together with the previous excitement produced by the thought of their separation, so wrought upon her frame that she gave a piercing shriek and fainted away. With a look of anger and defiance, the young man turned to Theophilus, and in the severest terms reproached him for venturing to be intimate with one so much his superior. Without regarding his threats, Theophilus would have rushed to her aid; but before he could sufficiently collect himself, the young man had carried the trembling girl to her boarding house, which happily was quite near. Early next morning they were on their way to her paternal mansion.

The violent and abrupt separation from the object of his love was the more painfully felt by Theophilus, in consequence of his present destitution and the uncertainty which rested upon his future prospects. Recollecting, however, that every thing depended upon his energy and perseverance, he resolved not to give way to the influence of present disappointment, but to exert his utmost effort, in order to render himself worthy of the object of his affections. Having arranged his affairs, he left the place, and in a few days reached his home. Here his gloomy thoughts were dissipated by the caresses of his fond parents and the interesting scenes of his early youth.

His parents were poor, but honest and respectable. They had but one son, and, in order to give him a good education, they had lived in the most economical manner and appropriated every thing they possessed; and now they felt themselves rewarded for their self-denial by the affection and gratitude of their son, and much more by seeing him qualified for usefulness in his calling. Theophilus now applied to the proper authority for examination. This he sustained with great credit to himself, and shortly after received license as a candidate for the Gospel ministry.

In the mean time, a vacancy occurred in one of our Southern cities, in a large and wealthy congregation. Theophilus, in pursuance to an invitation, preached for them, and by his learning and eloquence operated so favorably upon them that a unanimous call was preferred to the Bishop for his appointment as Rector of the Church. The Bishop hesitated; for he had made choice of another for that station, and our candidate was a stranger to him. Not wishing to oppose the unanimous wishes of the congregation, especially as he lived in the same place, he at length resolved to have a personal interview with Theophilus, and, if he found him qualified, to give him the appointment.

The next day the candidate received a very polite note, containing an invitation to dine with the Bishop. The effect of this invitation upon his mind was such, that a person unacquainted with the circumstances would have supposed that he was laboring under some strange influence, which had to some extent impaired his intellect. We will not attempt to describe its effects, nor will we pretend to enter that private sanctuary of hallowed emotions, where none but the legitimate priest has a right to worship. We leave the mystery to explain itself.

At the appointed hour, Theophilus made his appearance. Beside the Bishop, his wife and daughter, a large circle of friends and acquaintances had been invited to grace the occasion, many of whom were from the north, persons of note and distinction. The moment Theophilus was introduced, a single glance caused the blood to rush to his face, producing a confusion which was perceived by all, but which was attributed to his introduction to so large and brilliant an assembly. Besides, an intelligible sign from a certain quarter indicated the necessity of caution. Resolved not to betray himself, he soon recovered his composure, and took a lively part in the conversation which ensued.

Among the persons who took a seat at the table was a young minister from New York, one of those conceited persons who suppose that their rank, learning and influence are graduated by the size of the town in which they live, and who vainly imagined that his prominent station was secured by his superior talents and learning—a young man of unbounded ambition, fond of forcing himself into notice at the expense of every thing else—low in stature, with a fair complexion and light hair. This man was exceedingly anxious to attract attention by endeavoring to appear odd—different from all others—a kind of nondescript! Regardless of the feelings of others, he employed every occasion to show his wit, even at the expense of name and character. As it was known that he was pleased whenever he was spoken of as a minister from New York, the appellation soon became general, and, by way of ridicule, he was universally designated by no other term than "the minister from New York."

This individual endeavored to arrest general attention by the relation of various incidents and anecdotes of the latest stamp in the North. He referred to a number of distinguished persons there, displaying the greatest severity in his strictures on their conduct, without any regard to character or reputation. As many of those present were from the North, the Bishop became apprehensive that he might say something unpleasant to some of his guests, who were strangers to the minister, and who might feel themselves injured by the freedom with which his tale-telling propensities were marked. Addressing himself to the minister, the Bishop mildly said—

"Brother, remember the adage—'Fide, sed cui, vide.' Be cautious as to what you say of others, especially when surrounded by persons who are strangers to you, lest perchance you may some day find yourself in as unpleasant a predicament as that which befel the poor student at K—."

"And, pray, what happened to him? Let us hear," resounded from various parts of the table.

"Do tell—an interesting story, no doubt!"

said the minister from New York, with a certain loss of his head and a peculiar compression of his lips, which was his usual way to express his contempt.

"It contains a moral that might be of great service to certain persons present," said the Bishop, evidently annoyed by the manner of the last speaker, which he perfectly understood.

"Well, let us hear." "A young man," began the Bishop, "from the University of B—, of fine talents and extensive information, resolved during vacation to visit his parents, whom he had not seen for some years. On the evening of the second day he reached the town of K—, where he recollected a distant relative of his resided. On inquiring for the person he found it to be the prominent personage of the town, a magistrate in affluent circumstances. When he came near the dwelling which had been pointed out to him, he found it splendidly illuminated, and heard strains of music, mingled with sounds of revelry and mirth. Having enquired what was going on, he was told that his cousin's daughter was that evening to be married to a Mr. B—, who had become quite a prominent character in the village of K—. Having directed a servant to call his relative, our young student made himself known, and received a hearty welcome.

"You have come just at the right time, my dear cousin," said the magistrate; "my daughter is about to be married to Mr. B—, a most eligible match, but walk in."

"Without giving the student time to remove the dust accumulated by his journey, he took him by the arm and introduced him to the company assembled on the occasion. As he had come from a place of some note, a number of enquiries were made as to the news of the day, the state of trade, prices, &c. He soon attracted general attention, by displaying great conversational powers and extensive knowledge. His relative the magistrate, pleased with the attention which he had excited, requested him no longer to confine himself to matters of a local nature, but to tell them something of more general interest. Thus solicited, he thoughtlessly related the following incident, which, he said, had lately been a subject of much conversation in B—:

"The merchant W—, said the student, 'belonged to one of the richest houses in B—, he had somewhat strangely bestowed his entire confidence upon his secretary, who for a long time had been his confident and assistant, and who was intimately acquainted with the affairs and condition of the house. The merchant, however, died suddenly, leaving a widow and seven children to mourn their loss. The grief, however, was somewhat assuaged by the conviction that the prosperous state of the concern would not only afford herself and his children a competent support, but that she would even be enabled to maintain the former character of the house. She, therefore, did not hesitate, pursuant to the will of the deceased, to confide the guardianship of her children into the hands of her friend, the well-tried and faithful secretary, who continued to carry on the business of the firm as before, and who manifested a strong inclination to enter into more intimate relations with her. But an earlier attachment to a friend of her youth was again revived, which induced her to decline the offer of the secretary, and, after the expiration of a year, to bestow her hand upon the former. A short time after the marriage, the secretary absented himself, and on the same day the young husband also died. No funds were to be found; a number of creditors appeared, who by their violent clamors convinced the unfortunate widow that she was reduced to poverty—that her immense fortune had been dissipated by the discarded lover, the unfaithful and wretched secretary. It was even reported that, according to the testimony of a physician, the young husband had died by poison. It is natural to suppose that the most active measures were immediately adopted to arrest the fugitive, as a thief and robber, and even suspected of having administered poison. But all their efforts proved fruitless—not a trace of the person could be discovered. Most probable, the wretched criminal was now enjoying the fruits of his guilt in a foreign land—if, indeed, it be possible for a guilty conscience to enjoy the price of deception and blood in peace."

"Sir, I beg your pardon!" was the sudden exclamation by which our young student now all at once found himself interrupted, at the same time perceiving an individual hastily rising and approaching him." This continued the Bishop, in his story. "The person who thus unceremoniously interrupted the student was a tall, crooked, thin-visaged, emaciated being, with a nose resembling the beak of an eagle, the extreme summit of which was surmounted by a pair of spectacles, which gave a bold contrast to the various restless passions indicated in his unquiet countenance. Touching the student somewhat rudely upon the shoulder, and beckoning him to the door, he said—'A word in private, sir!'"

A general uneasiness prevailed the company, who were surprised at this singular scene, and anxious to know what could have happened to the man with spectacles, the bridegroom, Mr. B—.

"The student having followed him into a private apartment," said Mr. B—, "in a tone of voice indicating the most violent passions, 'by what right have you ventured to enter a friendly circle, where you have been so kindly received, in order to act the part of a heartless slanderer and despicable defamer? Know, sir, that the secretary of that ruined house, whom you have caricatured as guilty of fraud and murder, and as pursued by justice to a foreign country, was myself! All the world knows that the fall of that house was occasioned solely by the second husband of the unfortunate widow, who was a shame-

less profligate and spendthrift; who spent her fortune, and being threatened by his creditors, ruin and disgrace staring him in the face, destroyed himself by taking poison. And every one knows that I had previous to this resigned my post, not secretly, but with the knowledge of all concerned, because I no longer found myself able to stem the torrent which I saw would ere long overwhelm the firm, and because I was unwilling to witness the fall of such a respectable house. All this I can establish by documents in my possession—and were it otherwise, you would scarcely now find me here, under the protection of the government, only a few days journey from B—, and much less as the intended husband of the daughter of this house."

"Why, my dear cousin, what have you been doing?" exclaimed the magistrate, who had followed them and overheard the conversation. "That was a foolish story; Mr. B— is one of the most honest and respectable men in the world! What on earth could have induced you to think of such a wretched piece of absurdity? None but a bitter foe of my intended son-in-law could have invented such a senseless scandal! How can you repair the injury which you have inflicted upon this inoffensive man?"

"Who can imagine," continued the Bishop, "the utter consternation of the student at this unexpected development! He now found himself in a difficulty, out of which he knew not how to extricate himself. The offended B— would not be satisfied—no excuse, no apology seemed to appease him—no assurance that it was a matter of public and general remark—that he had no personal design in relating it, and that he had not entertained the remotest idea of coming into contact with the hero of the story, who, he was now happy to find was a respectable and inoffensive man—all was vain! The man with spectacles, the enraged bridegroom, insisted on what the world terms an honorable settlement, and would be satisfied with nothing less than a most triumphant vindication. And it was with the greatest difficulty that he was finally induced to become more moderate in his demands by the earnest solicitations of the father of his intended bride. It was agreed that he should return to the company openly acknowledge his error, recall his anecdote, and declare Mr. B— to be a man of strict honor and unsullied reputation."

"The student, as may be readily supposed, performed his humiliating task with feelings of the deepest mortification, to the great triumph of the emaciated, shrivelled B—, whose countenance indicated how greatly he enjoyed his victory. To remain any longer in such a company, our young student now found to be impossible. He, therefore, retired to his room at an early hour, and next morning before break of day silently left the village, and, no doubt, with the solemn determination never again to report the news of the day in an assembly of persons of whose neutrality he was not previously ascertained. And that which he will also most probably never again repeat, is, that the enraged B—, not satisfied with his public vindication, employed three of his creatures, who, in disguise, followed our young traveller to the nearest wood, and there, without any personal interest, inflicted upon him so severe a corporal chastisement as to leave visible impressions to remind him of his determination above, and most probably to create the additional vow forever to turn his back upon the village of K— and its respectable and inoffensive inmates."

"Therefore," concluded the Bishop, turning to the minister from New York, "my dear brother, *Fide, sed cui vide*, that you may not expose yourself to a predicament that might produce a similar mode of redress!"

The person addressed, evidently discomposured by the rebuke which the Bishop had administered, would have made himself merry by the circumstance, but restrained by considerations of respect for the Bishop, he contented himself by expressing a feigned sympathy for the poor student, and, without being in the least restrained in his "besetting sin," he again commenced to relate various scandals, exposing persons and characters without mercy or reserve. Among other matters, he related the story of a young girl, which, he said, he had recently heard, who had fallen desperately in love with a young fellow, and entered into an engagement with him, without the knowledge or consent of her parents; but they had been unexpectedly interrupted in their fond expectations by the sudden removal of the girl, who, in consequence, pretended to fall into a kind of hysterical fit, and intimated a determination not to outlive her disappointment. "But," added he, endeavoring to be witty, "the best cure for the youthful raptures of the thoughtless girl would be a mode of treatment similar to that which fell to the lot of the student at K—."

A proud curl of the lip, and the crimson glow which suffused the fair face of an individual present, proved how deeply this last remark was felt—nor was it forgotten, as the sequel will show.

"What became of them afterwards? Was the engagement entirely broken off?" inquired the Bishop.

"I do not know," replied the minister from New York. "Perhaps they had no opportunity to meet afterwards, as they were far removed from each other."

"And yet if they were solemnly pledged to each other," continued the Bishop, "much as I disapprove of similar engagements without the consent or blessing of parents, yet we ought to

pause before we separate persons pledged to each other by a solemn vow."

"But there may be differences in rank, wealth and station, which—"

"No matter," interrupted the Bishop, "experience proves that marriage contracts, regulated by considerations of wealth and distinction, or graduated by the arbitrary rules of conventional etiquette, are generally among the least prosperous and happy, especially when, as is too often the case, the feelings and inclinations of the parties are not consulted."

During the whole of this conversation, Theophilus had remained silent, and seemed absorbed in his own reflections, occasionally exhibiting a degree of emotion that was perceived by all. At length, the Bishop endeavored to arouse him and cause him to forget his sadness, by playfully inquiring whether he could not amuse the company by relating some anecdote of the talkative minister from New York, with whom he was probably acquainted.

Theophilus replied—"I have no acquaintance whatever with the gentleman; besides, the fate of the poor student might be renewed in the case. But, if permitted, I would also relate an anecdote to show the importance of being on our guard in reference to what we say in a company of strangers—an incident occurring to my mind, whilst the narrative of 'the Bishop, as I freely confess, made a special impression on my mind, and excited my warmest sympathies for the poor student.'"

"But let us first adjourn to the parlor," said the Bishop, "where we can hear at our leisure and with more comfort."

All were now anxious to hear Theophilus, who, by his known talents and eloquence, contrasted with his subsequent reserve and sadness, had awakened an unusual interest in his behalf.

In a few moments the company were again seated, and the general silence that prevailed indicated their anxiety to hear the promised incident. Theophilus began:

"Several years ago," said he, "a young lawyer in one of our principal cities was engaged in a very important lawsuit. Circumstances required that he should visit a distant town in the interior of the State, in order to consult certain documents having reference to the case. After he had successfully accomplished his object, he resolved on his return to visit an uncle, a former Governor of the State, who lived but a short distance out of his way. When he arrived at the residence of the Governor, he found a large circle of distinguished personages, who, pursuant to an invitation, had assembled there. He soon became familiar with the strangers present, and related to them the cause of his journey and the importance of the suit in which he was engaged. He knew how to attract general attention, by the recital of a number of incidents and anecdotes which he said had occurred during his journey. Pleased and flattered with the interest he had excited, he was induced, by his presumptuous vanity, to relate an anecdote which any person would have hesitated to mention in such an assembly."

[To be continued.]

KINKS OF THE LAW.—A certain acquaintance of ours, once a member of the lower house of our state legislature, a lawyer, editor and now a member of the convention to revise the constitution during an exciting political canvass, had been on the 'stump' for several weeks, thro' the back counties, doing good service for his party, and upon arriving at home, one morning, he found that a particular case in which he was retained as counsel had been called by the court, then in session. He had not shaved from the time of his departure nor so much as changed his linen—he was never known as very delicate about the cleanliness or neatness of his personal appearance; and, upon this occasion, owing to his recent rusticity, he looked particularly queer. All unshaved, with his honors thick upon him, he marched into the presence of the court, and gave his assiduous attention to the interests of his client. Mr. G—, of St. Louis, who sometimes relishing a joke as much as any one, was the opposing counsel in the case. The dining hour having arrived, the court took a recess.

In the meantime, our political friend, singularly enough, got 'shaved and shirred'; and upon the re-assembling of the court, presented himself before the bar, 'the very pink of neatness.' Mr. G— suddenly arose and addressed the court, begging, before proceeding with the case, to call attention to an important matter, that he had just been apprised of; it involved nothing else than a charge against the counsel for the defence of an attempt to influence the minds of the jury by untruth, illegal and unfair means. 'I look about me, may it please your honor, in vain, to find the gentleman who presented himself here this morning as my opponent in this case, and I cannot but observe the fact, that new counsel has been brought into the case, and at this position of it, too, with an evident intent to create a false sympathy in the minds of the jury. I know that your honor will not tolerate this state of things and will immediately grant me a continuance of the case.' The learned gentleman had scarcely taken his seat, when our political 'limb' jumped up in great excitement, exclaiming, 'New counsel! May it please your honor, I've only got on a clean shirt and been shaved.'

Blame not before thou hast examined the truth; understand first, and then rebuke.

From the Age.
GOV. COLBY'S MESSAGE—A CURIOUSITY.

It is well known to our readers that by a combination of events, the democratic party in New Hampshire at its recent election was defeated, and a majority of federalists, abolitionists, and dissenters of various hues returned to the legislature. There was no choice of Governor. The votes for that office were as follows:—Jared W. Williams, dem. 26,740—Anthony Colby, fed. 17,707—Nathaniel S. Berry, 10,378—Scattering, 368, making a small majority against the democratic candidate. On the meeting of the legislature last week, the speckled party, united on Colby, and made him Governor. Thereupon His Excellency, as soon as he was sworn into office, delivered a speech to the legislature in which the principles of the federal party of New Hampshire are laid down with great simplicity. It is a curiosity throughout, and will forever establish the claim of the federal party to all the talents of the country.

In the second paragraph of his speech the learned Governor thus settles the character of our institutions and people:

"Ours is a country of benevolent principles, and, southern slavery excepted, of unequalled liberty. This exception, at variance with the doctrine of popular liberty, at variance with our declaration of liberty and equal rights, and repugnant to our moral sense, was entailed upon us by the framers of our constitution, whose pollution for the admission of so great a blot upon our system, was the weak and embarrassed condition of the country at the close of the revolutionary war. But what can be said of the present generation in the United States? Grasping territory for the purpose of increasing human misery."

He next hops upon Texas, the Baltimore convention, and the democratic party generally, and shows the liberality of New Hampshire towards Southern Slave holders, of every "rank and color," as follows:

"Texas has been annexed to the United States for no higher object than to perpetuate an institution which degrades the human race, and dishonors the God of Heaven. For doing this there is no excuse that will avail for our country before a righteous Judge. Let New Hampshire wipe out the stain which has been flung upon her, by party machinery, set in motion at the Baltimore convention, whereby she has been made to act contrary to the true spirit of her original democracy, and contrary to the true feelings of three fourths of her citizens. Whilst we of the north are not permitted to remain in a southern State, by our agents, for the purpose of obtaining justice, let us render good for evil, and say to our southern brethren, of whatever rank or color, that if they come into New Hampshire, they may enjoy equal liberty with us, and if any be claimed as servants, or slaves, let a right to their service, founded on mutual contract, be shown to the satisfaction of a New Hampshire jury."

As to the power of Congress over the institution of Slavery in the District of Columbia, this wise man seems to be in doubt, for on this subject His Excellency sagely remarks:

"If Congress have not the constitutional right to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia, it would look better for them to remove the seat of Government to some free State."

The Governor next comes to the militia, and although a good potent abolitionist, and withal a believer in revelation, he evidently is not one of that milk and water crew who hold to conquering enemies by kissing, or reducing castles by the blowing of rams' horns. We commend this part of his Excellency's speech to the careful consideration of certain non-resistants that we wot of, by whom it will be undoubtedly appreciated. He says:

"I recommend to your candid and serious consideration, the militia. This is an essential pillar in the government. Without it, there would be nothing within the reach of the executive or of the judiciary, to carry any law whatever into effect. Although we look upon war with horror, although it is in part wholesale duelling yet the scourge is upon us, and without inquiring who or what has involved us in so awful a calamity, it is our duty now, to be prepared for any emergency, and to stand ready to obey, promptly any orders which we may receive from the general government. We have a brave and powerful soldiery, ready at all times to defend their country—we have a harbor and a navy yard for building and refitting ships of war, unsurpassed by those of any State in the Union."

When the selfish aspirations of man for place and power, shall be changed for the pure spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the broken command of God, which says, "love thy neighbor as thyself," shall be obeyed by all mankind, then, and not till then, may the militia be disbanded. Any change which you may make in the system rendering it acceptable to our citizens, and satisfactory to those performing service, by no means diminishing its present efficiency, I shall surely approve. Whatever may be the system, it is the popular voice which will sustain or crush it. Indeed, our whole government rests upon the breath of the people. To ridicule an essential part, is the same as ridiculing the whole. If the militia is a force then the whole government is a force."

His Excellency next makes a dash at the banking system in the following style. For perspicuity and comprehensiveness it is certainly unrivalled. Henceforth there can be no doubt as to the true principles on which banks ought to rest. Individual liability makes banks altogether too safe and aristocratic—it creates monopolies, which it would seem are in opposition to the creed of New Hampshire federalism.

"The present banking law is aristocratic in its operation, and if continued, our banks will be the most perfect monopolies that our State has ever reared. The unlimited personal liability of the stockholders for the whole business into a sort of legalized co-partnership of the rich, excluding the middling interests and others, who are the sole contributors to make up the yearly dividend, which passes safely into the pockets of the few. Banks should be sufficiently guarded for the safety of the bill holders, and chartered for the purpose of giving to the people a circulating medium for the transaction of their ordinary business."

business. The revenue arising from the proper management of them, should be distributed as far as it may be, among the many. Banks do not create business, nor give employment to the laborer, yet they should accommodate all who give sound and safe security. I would prejudice no man against the rich. The man of wealth, whose heart is open to the wants and woes of his fellow man, and who will put his money at risk to create business for the laboring class, is worthy of respect and deserves success. Our laws in relation to corporations should be so modified that such men may find the same encouragement here as in other States."

But we must stop or we shall copy the whole speech, having exhausted nearly one half of it already. It is certainly a luminous document, and would, we doubt not, have been illustrated by liberal quotations from Mother Goose's Melodies were it not for the fact, that such illustrations would have been more difficult to understand than the text itself. The federalists of New Hampshire and of New England generally may well be proud of this sparkling gem which the late triumph in the granite State has brought to public view.

OXFORD DEMOCRAT.

PARIS, JUNE 16, 1846.

Democratic State Convention.

A Democratic State Convention, for the nomination of a Candidate for GOVERNOR, will be held at the City Hall, in Portland, on Wednesday, July 1, next, at 9 o'clock in the forenoon.

All towns and organized plantations having 1500 inhabitants and over, will send one Delegate each—towns and cities having more than 1500 and not exceeding 5000, will send each two Delegates;—over 5000 and not exceeding 10,000, three; and so on in the same ratio.

CHARLES HOLDEN, Cumberland, Me.
W. C. ALLEN, York, N. H.
EDWIN ROSS, Lincoln, N. H.
GREENLIEF WHITE, Kennebunk, Me.
JOHN GROVER, Oxford, N. H.
JOHN L. CUTLER, Franklin, N. H.
JABEZ TRUE, Portsmouth, N. H.
H. W. CUNNINGHAM, Waldo, Me.
ASA CLARK, Somerset, Me.
J. S. MONROE, Piscataquis, Me.
Augusta, May 16, 1846.

Caucus.

The Democratic Republicans of the town of Paris are requested to meet at the Town House on Saturday, the twenty-seventh day of June, inst., at 8 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of choosing Delegates to attend the State Convention to be held at Portland on the first day of July next.

Per order of the Town Committee.

Paris, June 15, 1846.

From the Army.

Matamoras Taken!

The New Orleans Picayune of the 30th, has news from the army and the account of the capture of Matamoras. We condense the following:—

On the 17th of May a large portion of Gen. Taylor's army moved up the river for the purpose of crossing, Gen. T. remaining at the fortification with about three hundred men. As the army were seen by the Mexicans, on the opposite shore, to leave the encampment and approach the ford, Arista sent a flag of truce to Gen. Taylor requesting an armistice of six weeks, giving as a reason for his request, that he wished to communicate with his government. Gen. T. answered that he would give him until eight o'clock the next morning to evacuate the city of Matamoras, and would permit him to take the public property under his charge. The flag then returned. On the next day Gen. Taylor's army crossed the river about four miles above Fort Brown, and on arriving at the city found that Arista and his army had departed, leaving only the mounted batteries. Such of the military apparatus as could not be easily carried away by the Mexicans, in their haste to escape, were thrown into the wells. Gen. Taylor issued orders to the army not to take any thing from the inhabitants without paying full value. The citizens are permitted to transact business as usual, with the exception of selling strong drinks.

It was understood that Arista's Head Quarters are at San Fernando, about 80 miles above Matamoras. The amount of money found in the Mexican army, just captured at the battle of the 25th, was, it is said, \$10,000 in gold.

Vera Cruz Blockaded!

From the N. O. Picayune of May 31, we learn that the U. S. Steamship Mississippi arrived off Vera Cruz on the 18th of May, with the intelligence of the glorious battles of the 28th and 29th. Wisely, the news was only communicated to a few Americans in the city. The port was immediately blockaded by the Mississippi and the Palmetto.

Orders had been received from Mexico by the American citizens directing them to leave Vera Cruz by the 24th, or retire into the interior. It was expected that our Consul would go on board of our vessels. The Castle of San Juan de Ulloa was in a perfect state of defence, and the officers in command were confident of being able to repel an attack. They will shortly have an opportunity of displaying their skill in gunnery, and of forming an intimate acquaintance with our naval force.

The contractor of supplies for the Mexican squadron had been placed under arrest by the authorities.

LATEST FROM MEXICO

The Battle of the 28th and 29th of May received in the City of Mexico—Honors to Arista—Mexico determined to carry on the war—Demands on Churches—Movement of Paredes.

Office of the N. O. PICAYUNE,
Tuesday noon, June 2d.

By the bark Louisiana, Capt. Willis, we have advices from Vera Cruz to the 25th, ult., 3 days later than those brought by Thetis. The Louisiana sailed in company with the Helen McLeod, leaving no American vessels in port. Brig Petersburg from New York sailed on May 21st. Blockade of Vera Cruz commenced on the 20th, fifteen days being allowed all neutral vessels in

port to load and depart. By order of the Mexican government American Council affairs had to be closed. All American citizens were to leave on the 28th. On that day the consul expected to go on board the steam frigate Mississippi. The Russian frigate arrived on the 25th, and a sloop found lying off the port got off in haste to prevent being seized. The day they sailed news reached Vera Cruz that Mazatlan (on the Pacific) had pronounced against Paredes. Gen Alvarez was still carrying on his hostile preparations in the south part of Mexico.

A report was in circulation that General Paredes intended to leave the city of Mexico at the head of more troops to reinforce the army of the north. Great animosity existed against American volunteers, increased by the news of the second action of the 28th and 29th. Enormous forced loans had been imposed upon the clergy by the government. The clergy had declared itself totally unable to get the Metropolitan churches prepared to furnish subsidies of \$50,000 per month; Churches of Mechoacan, \$5,000; of Puebla, \$40,000; of Gandallaxara, \$20,000; of Durango, \$15,000; of Oaxaca, \$8,000. These great sums show that the president is determined to prosecute the war with energy.

Senor Gandy has been arrested by the government. Gen. Almonte has made formal resignation of his mission to France. In regard to Paredes putting himself at the head of the army, the El Republicano says it is uncertain whether he will repair to the Rio Grande or to Vera Cruz. He would leave the Capital as soon as Congress assembled. Accounts of the disastrous actions of the 28th and 29th, had been received at the Capital, and appeared in the official journal. They are more accurate than Mexican bulletins generally and do credit to Arista. The news was received with regret; but with a determination to fight the war out.

LATER FROM THE ARMY.

The steamer Mary Kingston arrived last evening, four days from Point Isabel. On the 26th ult., about 500 Rangers and 200 Infantry volunteers arrived from Texas, the infantry was a company, 80 in number, all German emigrants from La Baco Bay, which was said to be the finest company at that point.

A party of Dragon (Rangers) went in pursuit of Arista's forces, who had fled from Matamoras on the 18th, and after a slight encounter with the rear guards, captured some mules and a small lot of camp equipments. The taking of Matamoras without a single shot, has in a great measure quenched the fears of those who believed that the Mexicans were determined to prosecute with unabated vigor, the attack upon Fort Brown. After describing the taking possession of Matamoras before published, the account proceeds:

Ampudia retreated from the town immediately after an interview with Gen. Arista. He retreated to Rio del Norte, where he is now encamped, awaiting a reinforcement from Paredes, who it is reported is on his way there with 15,000 men. This, however, is not authenticated. The general impression is that Arista intends concentrating his forces at Rioones, and when he has received sufficient reinforcement from Paredes he will renew hostilities. The troops landing at Barcos Santiago, are encamped there and at Point Isabel, and will remain there until further orders from General Taylor. There are now over 2000 troops daily landing. Col. Davis and Regiments are there encamped in Fort Polk. They are all in good health, but some suffering exists from the want of clean pure water. [N. O. Jeffersonian, June, 2d.]

Later from the Army.—News from Point Isabel to let inst. since that on the 25th ult. a severe gale occurred and blew down all the tents upon the Point, leaving the wounded and sick exposed to its fury.

Nothing new had been received from Matamoras. The volunteers are anxious for an engagement with the Mexicans. Many of the cannon which have been sunk in the wells and elsewhere have been recovered. Capt. Page is recovering. The army is impatient for another crack at the Mexicans, and the prevailing opinion is that "Old Rough and Ready" will before long indulge their desire.

Maine Volunteers!

We learn from the Augusta Age that the "Bangor City Grays" have tendered their services to the Government, as volunteers in the Mexican War, and have been accepted by the Government. Active measures are in progress in various parts of the State to fill up the requisition made by the General Government upon Maine.

Gen. Wendell P. Smith, of Portland, has issued a request to the fellow officers and soldiers and other patriotic citizens within the limits of the second Brigade, 5th Division, to enroll themselves into companies forthwith.

If the Mexicans have determined on giving the Americans an entertainment in the "Halls of the Montezumas," the Maine boys will be there to participate in the festivities of the occasion.

Tennessee Patriotism!

We learn from an authentic source, says the Nashville Banner, that up to Saturday last, between 70 and 80 companies, numbering more than 6000 men, had tendered their services to the Governor of Tennessee for the Mexican War.

Alabama Volunteers!

In addition to the Alabama companies already dispatched to the Rio Grande, thirty companies have organized and tendered their services to the Governor of Alabama. These thirty companies comprise 2500 men.

Embezzlement—Arrest. Mr. Russell, late Cashier of the Manufacturers' & Mechanics' Bank, has been arrested on the complaint of two of the Directors, on the charge of having embezzled the funds of the institution to the amount of \$150,000. He was required by the Justice to give bonds in the sum of \$25,000 for his appearance to take his trial. The bonds were given, and he was discharged from custody.

The Montreal Courier says that "institutions were commenced on this continent, no man can say where they will end, and when we see the Americans disciplining an army of 60,000 men, it is time for us to think of putting our Provincial forces on a respectable footing."

Samuel L. Hays, Esq., formerly of Portland, has been named by a special Corresponding Clerk of the Navy Department.

Legislative Synopsis.

SATURDAY, JUNE 6.

In Senate.—Bill for aiding in the prosecution of the War with Mexico came from the House, committed to the Committee on the Militia. The Senate received from its former vote and concurred with the House.

In the House.—On motion of Mr. Farrar, of Baileyville, ordered that the committee on the Judiciary be directed to inquire into the expediency of so altering the law as to authorize the Assessors and Clerks of Plantations to sell the timber on reserved lots, and to prosecute for trespass on the same, instead of the County Commissioners who are now authorized by law to perform said duties.

MONDAY, JUNE 8.

In Senate.—Mr. Montee, by leave, laid on the table a Resolve providing for the repair of the State Road from Blanchard to Moose head Lake, and the same was referred to the committee on State Lands and State Roads.

Order in relation to the choice of U. S. Senator, introduced on Friday last by Mr. Thompson, was called up and passed. Messrs. Thompson, Bronson and Knowlton were appointed the Committee on the part of the Senate.

In the House.—On motion of Mr. Hubbard, of S. Berwick, ordered, that the committee on License inquire into the expediency of prohibiting the furnishing of spirituous liquors to any person under guardianship as a spendthrift or insane person.

Petition of Josiah May and others for an appropriation to build a road through Dunn's Notch, near Andover in this County, was presented and referred.

TUESDAY, JUNE 9.

In Senate.—The President being absent, Mr. Dunn, of Cumberland, was chosen President pro tem.

Mr. Hastings, from the Committee on the Militia, reported the Bill for aiding in the prosecution of the War with Mexico, and the same was read, and (the rule having been suspended) passed to be engrossed. Mr. Jackson presented the Annual Report of the Warden of the State Prison, and 300 copies were ordered to be printed for the use of the Senate, and 50 copies for the use of the Warden.

In the House.—A great number of Petitions were presented and referred, and among them of Glazier, Masters & Smith, of Hallowell, relative to a new edition of the Revised Statutes; of Seth Fobes and 143 others, and Lomax G. Davis and 213 others all of this town, in relation to the sale of Ardent Spirits.

A communication was received from the Treasurer in reply to an order of the House) stating the whole amount of money belonging to the State, on deposit, and bearing interest, is \$293,881; amount not bearing interest, \$50,762. Also, a communication in relation to the practicability of investing in stocks the permanent School fund; stating "that it may be inferred from the account of public sales that a safe investment could be made in stocks yielding an interest at the rate of five per cent. per annum." Both communications were referred to the Committee on Finance.

Bill for aiding in the prosecution of the War with Mexico was taken up. Mr. Ingersoll moved to strike out the amount of the appropriation (\$20,000) and insert \$1,000 acres of land. Mr. Hill, of Moscow, moved to lay the subject on the table. Mr. Thompson, of Unity, called for yeas and nays. The motion to lay on the table was lost, 17 only voting in favor of it. Mr. Chadwick, of Portland, moved to amend the Bill by striking out the 14th Section. Mr. Thomas, of Newburg, opposed the motion. He believed it was intended to kill the Bill, and that this was but one of a series of amendments to be thrown in here with a similar object. He hoped the friends of the measure would take care that it passed, without boy's play or interruption. Mr. Parker, of Golden Ridge, moved to lay the subject on the table, with a view to a further consideration. Mr. Thomas opposed the motion, and after some further debate the vote was taken and the motion negatived, 65 to 52. Mr. Friend, of Elm, moved to recommitt with instructions to reduce the proposed appropriation to \$5000. Mr. Holman, of Dixfield, saw no danger in making this appropriation, it embodied no unnecessary expenditure, but the Bill, if amended, would have to go to the Senate, and consequently be further delayed. He hoped it would be speedily passed. The motion to recommitt was negatived, 77 to 51. The question then returned on the motion to strike out the 14th Section, and before the yeas and nays were taken the House adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10.

In the Senate.—Resolves making an appropriation of \$1500 for the Insane Hospital, and Bill to incorporate the American Baptist Free Missionary Society, were each read once and to-morrow assigned.

In the House.—Finally passed—Bills additional in relation to the State Library; to incorporate the St. Croix Steam Navigation Company. Bill for aiding the prosecution of the War with Mexico was taken up. Mr. Ingersoll moved to strike out the amount of the appropriation (\$20,000) and insert \$1,000 acres of land. Mr. Hill, of Moscow, moved to lay the subject on the table. Mr. Thompson, of Unity, called for yeas and nays. The motion to lay on the table was lost, 17 only voting in favor of it. Mr. Chadwick, of Portland, moved to amend the Bill by striking out the 14th Section. Mr. Thomas, of Newburg, opposed the motion. He believed it was intended to kill the Bill, and that this was but one of a series of amendments to be thrown in here with a similar object. He hoped the friends of the measure would take care that it passed, without boy's play or interruption. Mr. Parker, of Golden Ridge, moved to lay the subject on the table, with a view to a further consideration. Mr. Thomas opposed the motion, and after some further debate the vote was taken and the motion negatived, 65 to 52. Mr. Friend, of Elm, moved to recommitt with instructions to reduce the proposed appropriation to \$5000. Mr. Holman, of Dixfield, saw no danger in making this appropriation, it embodied no unnecessary expenditure, but the Bill, if amended, would have to go to the Senate, and consequently be further delayed. He hoped it would be speedily passed. The motion to recommitt was negatived, 77 to 51. The question then returned on the motion to strike out the 14th Section, and before the yeas and nays were taken the House adjourned.

THURSDAY, JUNE 11.

In Senate.—On motion of Mr. Barrett, ordered, that the Joint Select Committee who have under consideration the subject of amending the Constitution, inquire into the expediency of so amending that Instrument, that Representatives to the Legislature and all County officers chosen by the people, shall be elected by the largest number of votes at the first trial.

The Secretary of State came in and laid on the table the following Message from the Governor:—

To the Members of the Senate, and House of Representatives

I herewith lay before the Legislature a copy of a communication addressed to me by the Secretary of War, dated the 19th ult., requesting "upon the part of the President of the United States, that I would cause to be enrolled and held in readiness for muster into the service of the United States, a Volunteer Corps, consisting of one Regiment of Infantry." A copy of the Act of Congress providing for the prosecution of the existing war between the United States and the Republic of Mexico, passed upon the 13th ult., together with "memorandum of the organization of Volunteer Corps," under said Act, accompanying the same, are also herewith transmitted.

FRIDAY, JUNE 12.

In Senate.—Mr. Thurston, from the Committee on Education, to which was referred the memorial of Amos Brown and others, for the establishment of a Board of Education in this State, reported that 54

In pursuance of the requisition from the President, I have issued a proclamation inviting the services of Volunteers for the purpose therein specified, and promulgated by a General Order, the regulations which will be observed in the organization of said corps.

Sufficient time has not yet elapsed since the publication of these documents, to enable me to determine with entire certainty, whether with the inducements which are now held out, the number of men necessary to constitute the regiment required, can be enlisted with the promptitude and dispatch, with which it is desirable the requisition of the General Government should be met. The officers and privates composing the company of Bangor City Grays, have promptly tendered their services; and applications have been received from several individuals, asking for the authority to recruit, in different sections of the State. With these exceptions, the indications have not been as favorable as could be desired, and considering the remoteness of our position from the theatre of active operations, and that the call is made at a season of the year when all classes of our fellow citizens are actively engaged in their various avocations, it may be doubted, whether some additional inducements will not be needed to command the immediate service of those, whose patriotic feelings would otherwise impel them, at this juncture, to engage in the military service of the country.

Without authority from the Legislature, I have not deemed it within my province to offer any pecuniary compensations, either for the services of persons engaged in recruiting, or any emolument either to officers or privates, other than that provided in the Act of Congress herewith communicated.

As that Act makes no provision for the payment of any expenses preliminary, to the acceptance of their services by the President of the U. States, and as the process of enlistment and organization must necessarily precede such acceptance, it would seem to be indispensable, that some means should be provided by which these unavoidable expenses should be defrayed.

In order to secure the service of suitable individuals who may be disposed to exert themselves in forming companies, it will probably be necessary to make some pecuniary allowance for the time and expense necessarily incurred; when formed into companies, some time will be required for meetings for the choice of officers and still more for the subsequent meeting of company officers, at some central point, for the election of Regimental officers in the manner required by law.

In addition to these expenses it is possible that some further inducements in the form of pay or bounty may be required to facilitate the progress of enlistment, and to enable the Executive promptly to comply with the requisition of the President. I have been thus particular in enumerating the expense which will probably arise, in order that if it be the pleasure of the Legislature to authorize the employment of the necessary means, as I doubt not it will, the mode and manner of their expenditure may be pointed out with as much particularity as the nature of the case will permit.

Although it is not probable that any immediate call will be made for the quota of troops required from this State, every consideration of patriotism and duty should impel us to have them in readiness when the necessities of the National Government may require their services; and as I am sure that the Legislature fully participates in this sentiment, I cannot doubt that such measures as may be deemed best calculated to secure that object, will be readily considered.

I beg leave also to call your attention to that provision of the Act of Congress accompanying this communication, which provides for the employment of the State Militia. In the present condition of our Militia, if a call were made under the provision of the Act of Congress, it would be impossible to comply with it.

There is reason to believe, that even the slight duty required by the present law is almost wholly neglected; and as I stated in my communication at the opening of the session, both the enrollment and the returns are generally omitted. In the present attitude of our foreign relations we are liable at any moment to a call for the services of this arm of our national security and defence, and I cannot but hope, that some measure, calculated to remedy this obvious defect in the operation of the existing law, will commend itself to the judgment of the Legislature.

H. J. ANDERSON.

COUNCIL CHAMBER,
Augusta, June 11, 1846.

On motion of Mr. Thurston, 300 copies of the Message and accompanying Documents were ordered to be printed for the use of the Senate.

Passed to be engrossed—Resolves providing for the republication of the Revised Statutes; making appropriation for the Insane Hospital; Bill to incorporate the American Baptist Free Missionary Society.

In the House.—Bill for aiding in the prosecution of the War with Mexico was further considered. Mr. Hayden, of Kempton, moved to amend the pending amendment by substituting a proposition to insert \$5000 in lieu of the sum of \$20,000 proposed to be appropriated. Mr. Levensaler, of Thomaston, having been absent, and not having had an opportunity of examining the subject, moved that it be laid on the table, which motion prevailed, 85 to 31.

Mr. Barnes then presented the following order, which passed:—Ordered, That the Governor be requested to inform this House what expenses are necessary to be incurred by this State in raising and organizing the regiment of volunteers called for by the Executive proclamation and general order, dated May 20th, 1846, and to furnish such detailed estimates of said expenses as may enable the legislature to make a suitable appropriation therefor.

The Secretary of State came in and communicated a Message from the Governor. (See synopsis of Senate proceedings.) On motion of Mr. Barnes, the Message was laid on the table and 500 copies ordered to be printed for the use of the House.

In Senate.—Mr. Thurston, from the Committee on Education, to which was referred the memorial of Amos Brown and others, for the establishment of a Board of Education in this State, reported that 54

